

**BALTIMORE CITY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING  
URBAN DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURE REVIEW PANEL  
MEETING MINUTES**

**Date:** December 13, 2012

**Meeting No.:** 159

**Project:** Cherry Hill Recreation Center

**Phase:** Continued Schematic

**Location:** Roundview Road – Cherry Hill Community

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**PRESENTATION:**

Gennady Schwartz representing the Baltimore City Department of Parks and Recreation reviewed the goal of his department to create a new model for the city's future recreation centers. He responded to several previous comments of the panel by emphasizing the importance of a single controlled entrance, reviewing other operational aspects including anticipated trash management.

Tom McGillaway, landscape architect with Mahan/Rykiel reviewed changes since the last presentation including: additional perimeter trees around the entire site and particularly at the southern entrance area; the development of plaza and terraces along the east side of the building; and trash receptacles/bicycle racks at the main entrance. Lisa Andrews, with GWWO Architects reviewed critical plan relationships as well as the building elevations as well proposed green roofs. Although she discussed generally the materials being considered, the exact choices for exterior finishes and glass treatment would be shared at a subsequent meeting.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PANEL:**

The Panel felt that progress had been made since the last meeting, particularly in the development of the overall site landscaping. There are some concerns about aspects of the building's design that the Panel felt required continuing study and resolution:

1. **Building's Dead-end Axis**– The Panel felt that the dominant major axis required a stronger termination to celebrate its importance. One suggestion was to have the stair itself mark this axial relationship.
2. **Windows**
  - **Large two storey south facing bay window** – The Panel felt that this element appears to be in competition with the two storied glass entrance element – consider simplifying, creating 2 parts, and creating a stronger hierarchy.
  - **Pair of small vertical windows –left of main entrance-** it was suggested that this window type appeared unnecessarily discordant and different from the others – consider eliminating or simplifying this “one time” expression.
  - **Relationship of east side windows and terraces-** the relationship of the court/terraces against the building and its windows should be studied further to create a stronger, more resolved relationship.
3. **Proximity of clerestory and sloping roof** - Consider separation of the clerestory and the adjacent roof of the multi-purpose rooms so that the clerestory effect is continuous.

**PANEL ACTION:**

Recommend approval of Schematics with above comments addressed at next presentation.

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**Attending:**

Gennady Schwartz, Kate Brower, Jackie Williams – Baltimore City Department of Parks and Recreation

Tom McGillaway – Mahan Rykiel Landscape Architects

Allen Reed, Lisa Andrews – GWWO Architects

Ms Eig, Messrs. Bowden\*and Burns - UDARP Panel

Director Tom Stosur, Gary Cole, Wolde Ararsa, Anthony Cataldo, Christina Gaymon–Planning Department